

Amendments to the Claims:

Please amend the claims as set forth in this listing, which replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (amended): A drumhead quick disconnect comprising:
a latch that operably engages and applies tension to a drumhead of a drum;
a lever arm that enables a person to move the lever in one direction to place the latch in a locked drumhead tensioning position and to move the lever arm in another direction to release the latch from the locked tensioning position;
an adjustment device that enables the person to position the latch relative to the cover to vary an amount of force applied by the latch when the latch is in the drumhead tensioning position, the adjustment device including a threaded shaft and an apparatus selected from the group consisting of: a nut threaded onto the shaft and a handle for turning the shaft through a fixed female thread; and
a mount coupled moveably to the lever arm, the mount configured and arranged to fasten the latch, lever arm and adjustment device to the drum.

Claim 2 (original): The drumhead quick disconnect of Claim 1, wherein the latch has a hook portion that loops over and engages a bracket fixed to the drumhead.

Claim 3 (original): The drumhead quick disconnect of Claim 2, wherein the hook portion is closed so as to not come completely free from the bracket.

Claim 4 (original): The drumhead quick disconnect of Claim 1, wherein the adjustment device varies a location of the latch relative to a point on the lever arm.

Claim 5 (original): The drumhead quick disconnect of Claim 1, wherein the mount includes a flange that abuts and fastens to a side of the drum.

Claim 6 (original): The drumhead quick disconnect of Claim 1, wherein the mount is configured and arranged to attach to a flange mounted to a side of the drum.

Claim 7 (original): The drumhead quick disconnect of Claim 1, wherein the mount defines at least two mounting holes that are configured and arranged to align with at least two mounting holes defined by the drum.

Claim 8 (canceled)

Claim 9 (original): The drumhead quick disconnect of Claim 1, wherein the adjustment device is sized to be turned by the person when the latch is in the cover pulling position.

Claim 10 (original): The drumhead quick disconnect of Claim 1, which includes at least one pivotal connection selected from the group consisting of: the latch being connected pivotally to the lever arm and the lever arm being connected pivotally to the mount.

Claim 11 (original): The drumhead quick disconnect of Claim 1, wherein the latch is coupled moveably to one of the lever arm and the mount so that the latch does not come free when the lever arm is unlocked.

Claim 12 (amended): A drumhead quick disconnect assembly comprising:
a drumhead of a drum;
a latch that operably engages and applies tension to the drumhead; ~~and~~
a lever arm that enables a person to move the lever in one direction to place the latch in a locked drumhead tensioning position and to move the lever arm in another direction to release the latch from the locked tensioning position; and
an adjustment device that enables the person to position the latch relative to the cover, vary a location of the latch relative to the lever arm and vary an amount of force applied by the latch when the latch is in the drumhead tensioning position.

Claim 13 (canceled):

Claim 14 (canceled):

Claim 15 (amended): The assembly of Claim ~~13~~ 12, wherein the adjustment device includes a threaded shaft and an apparatus selected from the group consisting of: a nut threaded onto the shaft and a knob for turning the shaft through a fixed female thread.

Claim 16 (amended): The assembly of Claim ~~13~~ 12, wherein the adjustment device is sized to be turned by the person when the latch is in the cover pulling position.

Claim 17 (original): The assembly of Claim 12, which includes a mount coupled moveably to the lever arm, the mount configured and arranged to be fastened to the drum.

Claim 18 (original): The assembly of Claim 17, wherein the mount includes a flange that abuts and fastens to a side of the drum.

Claim 19 (original): The assembly of Claim 17, wherein the mount is configured and arranged to attach to a flange mounted to a side of the drum.

Claim 20 (original): The assembly of Claim 17, wherein the mount defines at least two mounting holes that are configured and arranged to align with at least two mounting holes defined by the drum.

Claim 21 (original): The assembly of Claim 17, wherein the latch is coupled moveably to one of the lever arm and the mount so that the latch does not come free when the lever arm is unlocked.

Claim 22 (amended): ~~The assembly of Claim 12,~~ A drumhead quick disconnect assembly comprising:

a drumhead of a drum;

a latch that operably engages and applies tension to the drumhead;

a lever arm that enables a person to move the lever in one direction to place the latch in a locked drumhead tensioning position and to move the lever arm in another direction to release the latch from the locked tensioning position; and

wherein the latch has a hooked portion that loops over and engages a bracket fixed to the drumhead.

Claim 23 (original): The assembly of Claim 22, wherein the hooked portion is closed so as to not come completely free from the latch.

Claim 24 (amended): The assembly of Claim ~~12~~ 22, which includes at least one pivotal connection selected from the group consisting of: the latch being connected pivotally to the lever arm and the lever arm being connected pivotally to the mount.

Claim 25 (amended): The assembly of Claim ~~12~~ 22, wherein the drum is of a type selected from the group consisting of: conga, bongo, djembe, ashiko, doumbek, tabor, bombo, klong yaw, taval, sakara, mridangam, hudak, naals, dhols, dholks, tupan, djun-djuns, coffeehouse, standing, tabla, talking, madal, zarb and any combination thereof.

Claim 26 (canceled):

Claim 27 (canceled)

Claim 28 (canceled)

Claim 29 (canceled)

Claim 30 (canceled)

Claim 31 (canceled)

Claim 32 (canceled)